



CREM Camp

*Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission
Day Camp*

Sunkawakan Sapa Pteyuha Othi
(Black Horse Ranch)

Eagle Butte, South Dakota



The mission of CREM Camp is to provide a day camp experience that offers much needed activities for children and youth and supports the repair of institutional and historical damage and fosters reconciliation between the Episcopal Church and the Lakota community by building relationships through actively integrating Lakota centric activities such as: horsemanship and riding, gardening, jewelry making, archery, hide tanning, storytelling, traditional baking/cooking, drumming/singing and Native and Christian spiritual practices.

We are partnering with local community organizations for resources and staff to enable positions to be filled by skilled community tribal member leaders working in partnership with the Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission clergy and laity.

Background: A consistent two-fold cry that we hear is: there is nothing for the kids and teens here to do, and the church has a complicated history with honoring Traditional Lakota beliefs and culture. Our hope is to indeed foster and encourage Beloved Community through visibly supporting the Lakota people in their traditions and working with tribal members to support and sustain the children and youth in meaningful and skill building activities, while building relationships.

There is indeed a breach in the church and the Lakota in being able to "love the image of God we see in our neighbors." This breach spans generations and sadly continues today. In this way, the images of both the labyrinth and the medicine wheel supports the activities of a camp scenario as the kids and youth journey around to different activities, meet at the middle and spiral out again, supported by Traditional and Christian leaders working together as they make their journey.